Texas Department of Insurance
Division of Workers' Compensation
Medical Fee Dispute Resolution, MS-48
7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100 • Austin, Texas 78744-1645
512-804-4812 telephone • 512-804-4811 fax • www.tdi.texas.gov

MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Requestor Name
SOUTH TEXAS RADIOLOGY GROUP

Respondent Name
TEXAS MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

MFDR Tracking Number
M4-14-2702-01

Carrier's Austin Representative
Box Number 54

MFDR Date Received
May 5, 2014

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "We initially submitted our claim to the address the patient provided at the time of service. We then received a phone call from the patient requesting that we bill Texas Mutual... Our claim & request for reconsideration was denied for timely filing. Per TDI-DWC Rule §133.20 we had 95 days from the time we were notified of Workers Compensation Insurance to file this claim."

Amount in Dispute: $113.55

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "The explanation given by SOUTH TEXAS RADIOLOGY is not consistent with 408.0272 in that the original billing was not submitted to a group accident and health insurer, a health maintenance organization, or a workers' compensation insurance carrier other than the insurance carrier liable for the payment of benefits. No payment is due."

Response Submitted by: Texas Mutual Insurance Company

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
June 20, 2013	72148	$113.55	$0.00

FINDINGS AND DECISION

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and all-applicable, adopted rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation.

Background

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for health care providers to pursue a medical fee dispute.
2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.20 sets out the procedures for health care providers to submit workers' compensation medical bills for reimbursement.
3. 28 Texas Administrative Code §102.4 sets out the rules for non-Commission communications.
4. Texas Labor Code §408.027 sets out the rules for timely submission of a claim by a health care provider.
5. Texas Labor Code §408.0272 sets out the rules for certain exceptions for untimely submission of a claim by a health care provider.

6. The services in dispute were reduced/denied by the respondent with the following reason codes:
   Explanation of benefits
   - CAC-29 – The time limit for filing has expired
   - 731 – Per 133.20 provider shall not submit a medical bill later than the 95th day after the date the service. For services on or after 9/1/05
   - CAC-193 – Original payment decision is being maintained. Upon review, it was determined that this claim was processed properly
   - 350 – In accordance with TDI-DWC Rule 134.804. This bill has been identified as a request for reconsideration or appeal
   - 724 – No additional payment after a reconsideration of services.
   - CAC-W3 – In accordance with TDI-DWC Rule 134.804. This bill has been identified as a request for reconsideration or appeal

Issues

1. What is the timely filing deadline applicable to the medical bills for the services in dispute?
2. Did the requestor forfeit the right to reimbursement for the services in dispute?

Findings

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.20(b) states, in pertinent part, that, except as provided in Texas Labor Code §408.0272, "a health care provider shall not submit a medical bill later than the 95th day after the date the services are provided."

   The Division finds that no documentation was found to support that any of the exceptions described in Texas Labor Code §408.0272 apply to the services in this dispute. For that reason, the requestor in this dispute was required to submit the medical bill not later than 95 days after the date the disputed services were provided.
2. Texas Labor Code §408.027(a) states, in pertinent part, that "Failure by the health care provider to timely submit a claim for payment constitutes a forfeiture of the provider's right to reimbursement for that claim for payment."

   28 Texas Administrative Code §102.4(h) states that "Unless the great weight of evidence indicates otherwise, written communications shall be deemed to have been sent on: (1) the date received, if sent by fax, personal delivery, or electronic transmission or, (2) the date postmarked if sent by mail via United States Postal Service regular mail, or, if the postmark date is unavailable, the later of the signature date on the written communication or the date it was received minus five days. If the date received minus five days is a Sunday or legal holiday, the date deemed sent shall be the next previous day which is not a Sunday or legal holiday."

   Review of the submitted information finds no documentation to support that a medical bill was submitted within 95 days from the date the services were provided. Therefore, pursuant to Texas Labor Code §408.027(a), the requestor in this medical fee dispute has forfeited the right to reimbursement due to untimely submission of the medical bill for the services in dispute.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the division finds that the requestor has not established that reimbursement is due. As a result, the amount ordered is $0.00.

ORDER

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code §413.031, the Division has determined that the requestor is entitled to $0.00 reimbursement for the disputed services.

Authorized Signature

		November 20, 2014
Signature	Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer	Date

YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

Either party to this medical fee dispute has a right to seek review of this decision in accordance with 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307, effective May 31, 2012, *37 Texas Register 3833*, **applicable to disputes filed on or after June 1, 2012**.

A party seeking review must submit a **Request to Schedule a Benefit Review Conference to Appeal a Medical Fee Dispute Decision** (form **DWC045M**) in accordance with the instructions on the form. The request must be received by the Division within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. The request may be faxed, mailed or personally delivered to the Division using the contact information listed on the form or to the field office handling the claim.

The party seeking review of the MDR decision shall deliver a copy of the request to all other parties involved in the dispute at the same time the request is filed with the Division. **Please include a copy of the *Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision*** together with any other required information specified in 28 Texas Administrative Code §141.1(d).

Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 512-804-4812.